

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

EPSOM PLANTATION

AND/OR COMMON

Now Goucher College**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Dulaney Valley Road

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

9th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES RESTRICTED☐ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Goucher CollegeTelephone #: (301) 825-3300

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Dulaney Valley Road

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Baltimore County Courthouse (New annex)Liber #: 545Folio #: 248

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Washington Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1484

## CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☒ RUINS  
☒ UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

See attached sheets

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="radio"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES	See Description	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Unknown
----------------	-----------------	-------------------	---------

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See attached sheets

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

See attached sheets

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 330 Acres**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Bounded by Fairmount Avenue on the south; Dulaney Valley Road on west; Baltimore Beltway (I-695) and Hampton Mansion National Historic Site on north; and Campus Hills housing development on east.

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**STATE None

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

WAYNE L. NIELD, IIHISTORIC TOWSON, INC.**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE Dr. Kent Lancaster Associate Professor of History/Chairman, History D  
Susan Cook Student

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Goucher College / Historic TowsonMay 24, 1978

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Dulaney Valley Road(301) 825-3300 X306

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

TowsonMaryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

# EPSOM



## BALTIMORE COUNTY

A report prepared as supporting documentation  
for an "Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey"  
for the Maryland Historical Trust  
by Susan M. Cook and R. Kent Lancaster  
Goucher College 1978

Contents

1. Epsom	page 1
2. Epsom - the Estate	4
3. Epsom Mansion - the Exterior	8
4. Epsom Mansion - the Interior	10
5. Dating of Epsom Mansion	14
6. Outbuildings, Remains and Ruins	17
7. List of Plates	24
8. Records Search	30
9. Bibliographic Notes	32
10. Appendices	
1. The Passage of Estates	
2. Inventories	
3. Federal Tax Assessment List, 1798	
4. Lime Kiln Account, 1771-72	
11. Maps	
1. Land Holdings of John Robert Holliday and Harriet Ridgely Chew.	
2. Hopkins, 9th District, 1877.	
3. Topographical Map of Goucher College, showing Epsom Sites, 1921.	

Epsom

Epsom was a major Baltimore County estate during the last quarter of the eighteenth century and throughout the nineteenth. Intimately connected with Hampton Mansion on the next hill north, and later with Cliveden in Philadelphia, Epsom is sometimes overshadowed today by those connections, and tends to lose its historic individuality. It was the seat, nonetheless, of proud gentleman farmers who initially chopped a successful agricultural income from the land, produced a model of diversified farming, assumed positions of leadership in their community, and probably relaxed occasionally to enjoy their status.

John Robert Holliday, who established and named the estate, was High Sheriff of Baltimore for five years, an officer in the Back River Upper Hundred Battalion during the Revolutionary War, and a successful farmer and dealer in real estate. Described as "gentleman" in many of his land records, he was perhaps that, but if so he was a working one. He emerges in the Ridgely papers asking for a job in his Uncle Charles Ridgely's store. Thereafter, the traces of his energy are frequent as he captures a runaway servant for his uncle, as his teams haul timber and ore for the Northampton Iron Works, as he oversees the construction and operation of a lime kiln, and as he becomes a partner in a milling enterprise. Married to a sister of Governor Thomas Lee Sims, and a brother, from 1790, of the master of Hampton and the mistress of Perry Hall, Holliday was well connected. His connections, however, did not dilute the energy with which he carved out an estate, a fortune, and position for himself in late eighteenth century Baltimore County. If slaves were an index of success, he inherited one in 1772 from his grandfather and had thirty when he died in 1800.

1

Henry Banning Chew, whose family occupied Epsom for the last thirds of the nineteenth century, was the grandson of Chief Justice Benjamin Chew of Pennsylvania and was later heir himself to Cliveden, which passed to his youngest surviving son, Samuel. The only son-in-law of Governor Charles Ridgely not from Baltimore, Chew settled in quickly and became a solid and respected citizen of the County. Perhaps the best remembered evidence of his civic consciousness was his donation of the land and building materials for Epsom Chapel, the first permanent place of worship in Towson. His son, Charles R. Chew, organized a Towson company of infantry for service in the Union army in 1861, when his wife's nephew, Charles Ridgely of Hampton formed a company of Confederate cavalry. If tradition may be trusted, Chew had a trench dug at Epsom against the passage of Confederate armies northward. Although much of the story of Epsom in the Chew years will be obscured until the Chew archives at Cliveden are opened, contemporary newspaper notices portray the Chews as highly respected leaders in the Towson and Baltimore County communities.

Epsom Mansion was an important Baltimore County building. It was an unusual example of two eighteenth century houses welded into a single mansion, whose south facade, visible from Towson, stretched ninety-four feet in an unbroken plane. Had the terrain permitted grafting of the newer wing onto the old house in the more usual L-shaped or T-shaped patterns, a good part of the architectural drama of Epsom would have been lost.

The nineteenth century addition of highly decorative elements, the conservatories and the doric portico, converted a rather severe and conservative structure into an exciting combination of formal and almost whimsical architecture. In an entirely different genre from the stately



and geometric Hampton, Epsom was nonetheless a Baltimore County showpiece. On the Sunday after the fire that destroyed the mansion, the Maryland Journal reported that ". . .the ruins were the mecca for pilgrims. . .and hundreds visited the scene all day."

Epsom - the Estate

Although not mentioned explicitly, the nucleus of the future Epsom estate was separated from Col. Charles Ridgely's Northampton in a deed of gift from the Colonel to his son, Captain Charles Ridgely, dated November 1, 1760.<sup>1</sup> Capt. Charles received the bulk of Northampton, all of Oakhampton and Hampton Court, which formed the basis of the lands attached to the Hampton Mansion that he completed in 1790. The part of Northampton not given to Capt. Charles—its southernmost 375 acres—and 100 acres of Ridgely's Conclusion to the south, were bequeathed in 1772 by Col. Ridgely to his grandson, John Robert Holliday (see Appendix number 1.)<sup>2</sup> Holliday acquired a three acre rectangle in front of his house from Thomas Bond's Stone's Adventure in 1787, trading Bond a slice of similar size from his part of Ridgely's Conclusion.<sup>3</sup> This was Epsom in the eighteenth century—a very irregularly shaped estate of about 475-480 acres immediately south of Northampton and north of the Joppa Road. (See map 1.)

Capt. Ridgely's heir, his nephew and Holliday's half-brother, Charles Carnan Ridgely, had begun, even before he inherited Hampton, to acquire lands contiguous to the Ridgely and Holliday property, and when he bought Epsom from his nephew, John Robert Holliday, Jr., in 1807 the estate had been filled out to the southwest to the limits of the Joppa and Mine Bank (later Holliday and now Providence) Roads.<sup>4</sup>

Charles Carnan Ridgely's heir, Charles Ridgely, Jr., farmed Epsom from 1808 and lived in the mansion at least from 1813 until his death in 1819, but as the arrangement was apparently an informal one between father and son, the extent of Epsom at that time cannot be determined.<sup>5</sup>

Epsom came to Charles Carnan Ridgely's youngest daughter, Harriet, and her husband, Henry Banning Chew, in the division of the Governor's

property between 1829 and 1841. Tradition has it that Harriet had received Epsom as her marriage portion in 1822 and the Chews may have occupied it from that date, but trustworthy evidence is missing. In the settlement of her father's estate, Harriet inherited the original Epsom, parts of Stansbury's Disappointment, Cross' Chance, Ridgely's Inspection, Ridgely's Conclusion, and Stone's Adventure, some 601 acres. She purchased two additional parts of Stone's Adventure in 1833-34, and Epsom was basically complete except for minor boundary adjustments between Harriet's sons and John Ridgely of Hampton in 1860.<sup>6</sup>

Harriet Chew's surviving sons, Charles R., Samuel, and Benjamin, came into possession of Epsom on the death of their father in 1867 and divided the acreage more or less equally among themselves. Charles' portion included the mansion and was passed "share and share alike" to his heirs on his death in 1875. Those heirs also inherited their unmarried Uncle Benjamin Chew's portion to the East of the mansion in 1884. (See Maps 1 and 2.)<sup>7</sup>

With the destruction of the mansion by fire in 1894,<sup>8</sup> Chew heirs settled permanently in Towson and elsewhere and the estate was farmed by tenants.

The steady move northward of Baltimore, Towson, and development took over Epsom in the twentieth century. Goucher College purchased 407 acres which included most of the inheritance of Charles and Benjamin Chew in 1921 and suburban developers obtained the rest. Goucher's acres remained undeveloped until the 1940's, when a fairly slow building program settled the academic portion of the campus on the site of Epsom Mansion with residences, other buildings, and athletic fields scattered across the old farm. The Goucher campus retains much of the rural nature of old Epsom although probably few at Goucher are aware that

when they walk across the central mall from Van Meter Hall to the Hoffberger Science Building, they have crossed the boundary from Col. Charles Ridgely's Northampton into Stone's Adventure which was first patented to William Fell.

<sup>1</sup>Land Recs. Baltimore County, Liber B # H, folio 420, dated November 1, 1760, Maryland Hall of Records.

<sup>2</sup>Wills, Baltimore County, Liber WB 3, folio 201, dated April 1, 1772, Maryland Hall of Records. Holliday had already inherited Goshen on the Hanover Pike near Reisterstown from his father, Dr. Robert Holliday as well as a number of lots in Baltimore City. He bought part of Ford's Choice on the Jones Falls in 1779 and inherited Gotham from his mother, Achsah Ridgely Holliday Carnan Chamier, who had it from her third husband, Daniel Chamier. Holliday did not improve his other estates, whose acreage put his total holdings at about 1300 acres. See Wills, Baltimore, Liber DD 4, folio 163, dated December 2, 1745 and Baltimore County, Liber WB 4, folio 96, dated June 18, 1785; Land Recs., Baltimore County, WG # D, folio 230, dated September 19, 1779, all in Maryland Hall of Records. He also inherited a considerable sum from the sale of the undivided real estate of Capt. Charles Ridgely. Chancery Records, Liber 30, folio 23, dated 1794-1807, Maryland Hall of Records.

<sup>3</sup>Land Recs., Baltimore County, Liber WG AA, folio 170; and Liber WG DD, folio 522, Maryland Hall of Records.

<sup>4</sup>See Chancery Records, Liber 21, folio 784, Maryland Hall of Records; and Plats, Baltimore County, Epsom, undated plat drawn for or by Henry B. Chew, Maryland Historical Society.

<sup>5</sup>Grocery Ledger, 1806-08, Ridgely Papers, MS. 691, Box 25, Maryland Historical Society; undated invitation sent to Charles Carnan Ridgely by Charles, Jr., to dine at Epsom, with guest list pencilled on the back, Ridgely Papers, MS. 692, Box 6, Maryland Historical Society; and entry for February 18, 1813, Henry Thompson Diaries, MS. 820, Maryland Historical Society. The grocery ledger charges provisions, etc., for Charles, Jr. at Epsom in 1808. MS. 692 contains an undated (except for "February 11") invitation for Ridgely to dine "at Epsom, Thursday next." Someone, probably Ridgely, Sr., pencilled in a guest list which included Henry Thompson. Thompson's diary for Thursday, February 18, 1813 notes that he was invited to dine at Epsom that day but had a previous engagement. Family tradition and the grocery ledger show that Charles, Jr. farmed Epsom; the invitation and diary are the only known evidence that he lived there. Epsom's role in this period was apparently that of an estate-in-waiting for the Ridgely heir apparent.

<sup>6</sup> Land Recs., Baltimore County, WG 191, folio 556, dated April 2, 1832, and Liber TK 336, folio 49, dated November 27, 1841; Land Recs., Baltimore County TK 225, folio 249, dated March 6, 1833 and TK 234, folio 466, dated January 31, 1834; all in Baltimore City Courthouse; Plats, Baltimore County, Epsom, and Chew-Ridgely Papers, MS. 1620, both in Maryland Historical Society.

<sup>7</sup> Wills, Baltimore County, Liber L 5, folio 44, dated May 27, 1874; and Liber 7, folio 428, dated February 13, 1884, Baltimore County Courthouse; and Chew-Ridgely Papers, MS. 1620, Maryland Historical Society.

<sup>8</sup> See Baltimore Sun, March 17, 1894 and The Democrat (Towson), March 24, 1894.

Description of Epsom Mansion - the Exterior

Epsom mansion, once located where the Goucher College academic buildings stand now, was destroyed by fire on March 16, 1894. (See Plates 1 and 2.) Unfortunately there are only a few extant graphic representations of the house. One must rely, in attempting to describe Epsom, on an old drawing of unknown date passed down through the Chew family, a tiny (1" x  $\frac{1}{2}$ ") representation of the house on an undated plat, and a photograph taken of the ruins after the fire. There are also some remnants of oral history, recorded in the 1940's when Chew descendants who had lived in the house were still alive.<sup>1</sup> The following description is drawn from these sources.

Two facades of the mansion, the south and the west, can be described with some certainty. The west wing was a two and a half story stuccoed structure of coursed rubble construction and was laid out in a central hall floor plan. It was five bays wide by what appears to have been four bays deep. The wing had two interior chimneys at the ridge of the gabled roof. The fenestration was regular with 4/4 sash windows on the second story. There were also two gabled dormers on the south. The central door and columned portico porch on the south facade were flanked by octagonal glass conservatories decorated on the top with dentil-like ornamentations.

Joined to the east side of the west wing was a slightly smaller building. It was also two and one half stories of coursed rubble construction, and appears to have been built on a lower foundation than the other wing. It was four bays long with irregular fenestration. The windows were 4/4 sash and there were again two gabled dormers on this wing.

The floor plan was somewhat off center. There was an end interior chimney, and at each corner of the south facade and where the wings joined, there were gutter drain pipes. Attached to the eastern end of the east wing was a small one story addition with a shed roof, barely visible in the drawing.

The western elevation of the mansion was what appears to have been a fairly early nineteenth century addition to the west wing-- a high extended portico porch supported in the front by six wooden doric columns with bases.<sup>2</sup> Matching pilasters stood at the end of the portico on either side of the wall. There was apparently some type of circular decoration in the freize over each column. Four French doors opened onto the porch and each door was surmounted by a decorative, rectangular panel.

<sup>1</sup>The drawing is lost but both Enoch Pratt Free Library and the Maryland Historical Society have photographs of it; the undated plat is in the Graphics Division of the latter, and the fire photograph is owned by Mr. Sam Green, Jr., of Towson. Details of interviews are in Isabel B. Moncure, "Future Perfect Tense, a History of Goucher's Future Home," Goucher Alumnae Quarterly, XIX #3, (May 1941), pp. 4-5; and Mary O. Odell, "Old Towsontown," The Club Courant, April 1941, pp. 22-23.

<sup>2</sup>A similar portico was added to a house of similar proportions in the early 1830's. The house was Robert Oliver's Greenmount. The architect faced the same problem posed at Epsom, attaching a rectangular portico to a triangular gable. The solutions at Greenmount and Epsom are remarkably similar. See the unattributed drawing of Greenmount in the Greenmount Cemetery gatehouse, Baltimore, with a copy in Maryland Historical Society.

Description of Epsom Mansion - the Interior

Plans of the interior of Epsom existed as late as 1941 but cannot be traced today. The visual and oral evidence noted above, when considered with inventories taken on the deaths of John Robert Holliday, Henry B. Chew and Charles R. Chew, give some idea of internal arrangement. (See Appendix 2.)<sup>1</sup> The mansion was a complex of two discrete houses joined end to end with some sixteen rooms not including halls, garrets, etc.

The west wing was apparently an orderly version of the Georgian central hall plan. The principal entrance to the house, on the south, opened into a large hall with staircase, probably on the north. The hall was flanked on the east by a large dining room, which also served as a family parlor, and on the west by double drawing rooms. Four French windows opened onto the West portico and served as entrances from that direction, and four more, two in the south drawing room and two in the dining room, opened onto the glass conservatories flanking the south entranceway. Whether these French windows were in the original building is uncertain; it seems likely that smaller windows were extended to floor level when the conservatories and portico were added.<sup>2</sup>

The second floor of the west wing contained stairwell, hall and five bedrooms, numbered "1" through "5". Finished rooms on the third floor served as garret space.

The foundation of the east wing was lower than the west. This wing was undoubtedly older than the west one, and as it seems unlikely that the original builder would have placed his house below the crest of the hill, the difference in elevation was probably caused by the incorpora-



tion of a sizeable cellar into the newer wing.<sup>3</sup> Steps, apparently two pairs on the first floor, led down from the west to the east wing. One pair led into a large room known in the nineteenth century as the breakfast room, the other pair led into a hall or passageway to a second east entrance and to the stairs. The east wing was built on an off-center hall plan, but the addition of the west wing probably necessitated alteration of the older house to accommodate easy passage between wings. This included partitioning off a passageway, probably on the southwest side of the old wing, to join the central hall, thus producing an "L"-shaped hallway. Descriptions of Epsom note that this floor also contained a large brick kitchen, a pantry, and "two other rooms."

On the second floor of the old wing, according to family tradition, were the owner's and his wife's bedrooms, a nursery, and by the nineteenth century at least, a room designated the cook's room. There was at least one opening between wings at this level and probably two. The third story was again attic space.

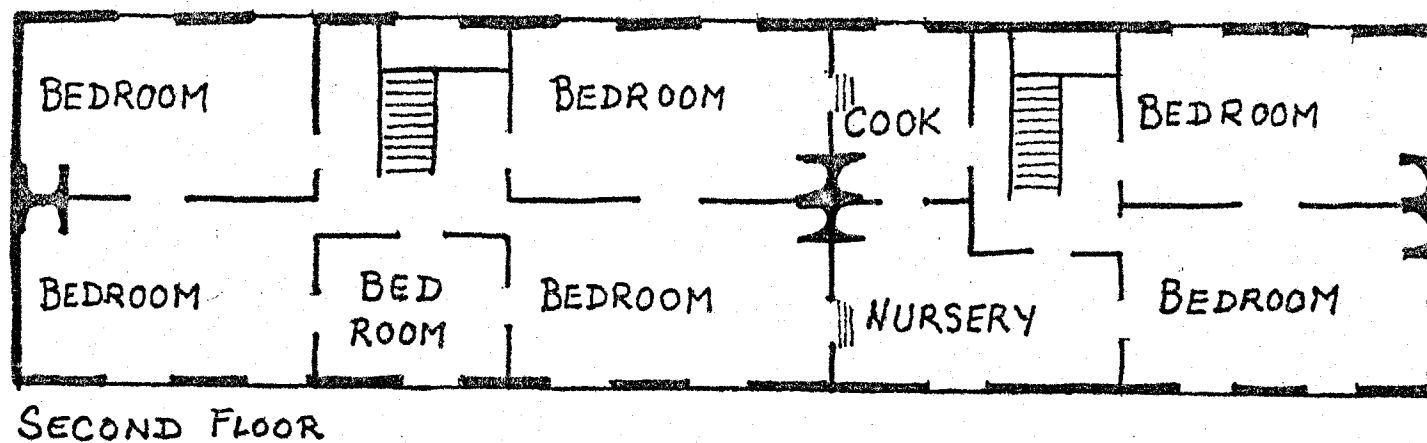
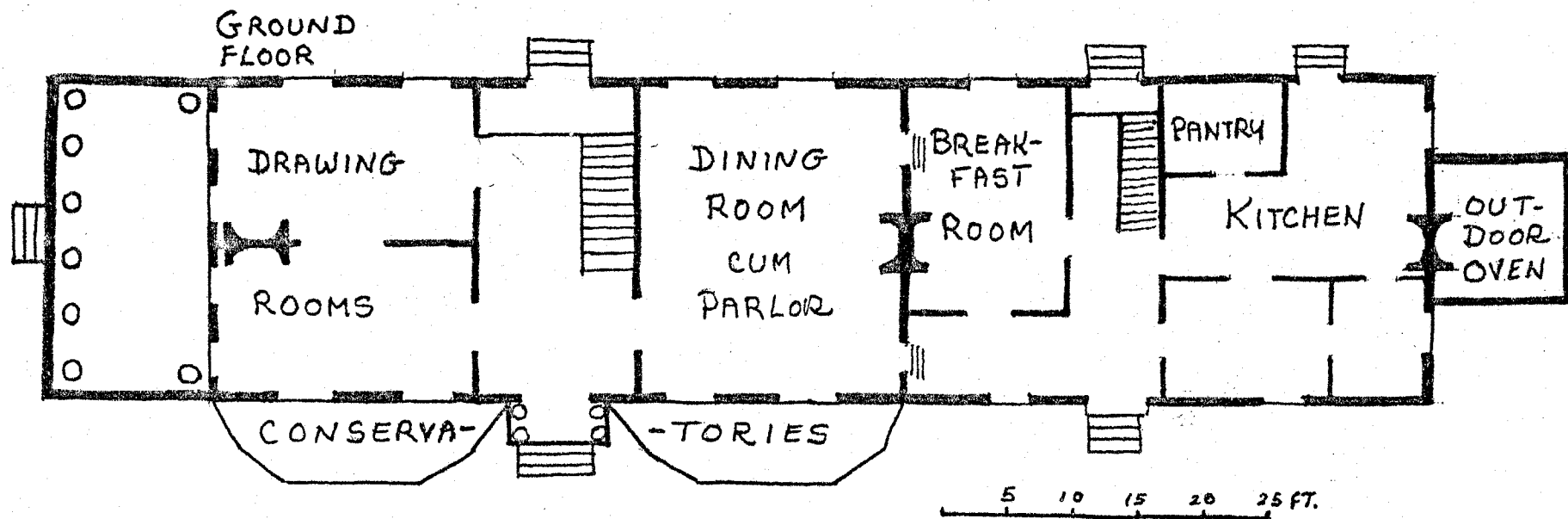
Although the photograph of the burned shell of Epsom corroborates most of the details in the undated drawing of the mansion, there is some discrepancy in the chimneys. The artist placed two chimneys near the west end of the west wing, while the photograph shows a single large interior end chimney there. There were interior end chimneys at the east and west ends of the house and another where the two wings joined. The placement of the chimneys suggests that all rooms in the new wing except for hallways and one second-floor bedroom had fireplaces. The photograph and Chew inventories show that the central chimney served both dining room in the west wing and breakfast room in the east. Chew inventories suggest that a variety of stoves supplemented fireplace heat by mid-nineteenth century. (See Plate 1.)

The Chew drawing shows a one-story, shed-roof protuberance at the easternmost end of the building. This was undoubtedly the outer kitchen. Reminiscences recorded in the 1940's note a double fireplace in the great kitchen with ovens inside and out, and the inventory of Charles R. Chew notes storage of appliances in both kitchen and outer kitchen. This is perhaps the outside kitchen, 16' x 16' noted in the Federal Tax Assessment List of 1798. (see Appendix 3.)

<sup>1</sup>Isabel B. Moncure, op. cit., pp. 4-5; Mary O. Odell, op. cit., pp. 22-23. See Appendix 2 for copies of the inventories.

<sup>2</sup>The representation of the mansion on the undated plat is remarkably detailed for its size. The western portico is clearly drawn, but the southern windows seem typical, small, double-sash ones, and the conservatories are not yet there. Research on the dating of the plat is continuing.

<sup>3</sup>All the inventories note a cellar.



CONJECTURAL FLOOR PLAN OF EPSOM MANSION, TOWSON

BA-1484

The Dating of Epsom Mansion

Epsom was not built as a piece. It was two houses of different dates joined end to end as the owner's needs, familial and social, expanded and as the hilly terrain dictated. All indications are that the east wing was the older of the two. It was a solid and probably comfortable house, but one without any pretensions. Its asymmetrical facade and fenestration suggest a plan that evolved around a family's needs, not one that conformed to canons of contemporary style. John Robert Holliday seems to have lived on or near Northampton from the mid-1760's. The estate he named Epsom was his in 1772, and there seems little reason to doubt that the east wing was built either to house his growing family in the early 1770's or that it was already on the property when he inherited it.

The west wing presents more problems. It was a planned structure with considerably more pretension, and its builder had symmetry and some elegance in mind. Before the portico and the conservatories were added, it was a typical, large, late Georgian house; it is a move past the needs of a family breaking in a new farm and a step into order and gracious living. Holliday's listings on the Tax Assessment List of 1798 include a stone house, two stories, 24 feet by 53 feet, and a stone kitchen of two stories, 24 feet by 40 feet. (See Appendix 3.) The dimensions for the kitchen are simply too immense for a kitchen alone. The reference is certainly to a kitchen wing. There was, at any rate, another outside kitchen on the List, single storied and a more reasonable 16 feet by 16 feet--probably the shed roof structure at the east end of the mansion on the undated drawing.

In the photograph of Epsom after the fire of 1894, the south facades of the two wings form a single plane, suggesting that the wings were of equal depth. The west wing is longer than the east one, too, and the wings conform in general proportion to the ratio of 'house' to 'kitchen' dimensions in the Tax List.

Although hard evidence is lacking, it seems very likely that the two structures noted in the 1798 Tax Assessment List were the Georgian house and the older house of the 1770's, which had then become, on its first floor, at least, chiefly a kitchen, breakfast room, and storage wing—the two segments in all later graphic representations of Epsom. The west wing would date therefore before 1798. An iron stove plate decorated with Holliday's initials and the date 1784, remembered in a newspaper account 110 years later when the mansion burned, may suggest a date for the west wing.<sup>1</sup>

The western portico and the glass conservatories added to the west wing were the final additions to the mansion. Although they were almost certainly Chew additions after 1829, they cannot be dated much more precisely. The minuscule drawing of the mansion on the Epsom plat suggests that the portico had been added when the plat was drawn but that the conservatories had not. Further research is needed to date the plat. Newspaper accounts of the 1894 fire note that the conservatories had given way to "piazzas" before that date.

Note: Capt. Charles Ridgely rented John Robert Holliday "my Taylor Plans Book" in August 1773, for four and one half days at 3s. 6d a day.<sup>2</sup> While the Captain's spelling makes it perfectly possible that this was a book of patterns or plans for a tailor or seamstress, it may, on the other hand, have been a book of house plans. Sir Robert Taylor was at the

time the most eminent architect in London, and the captain had just finished constructing a house for himself at Northampton (not Hampton Mansion.) Research into the possibility that Sir Robert Taylor published a book of his plans is under way but is incomplete. A positive result could have important implications for Epsom and possibly for the later Hampton Mansion as well.

<sup>1</sup>Maryland Journal, March 24, 1894.

<sup>2</sup>Captain Ridgely's Journal, Ridgely Papers, MS. 691, Box 16, Maryland Historical Society.

## Outbuildings, Remains and Ruins

### Spring House I

There are a number of extant remains of pre-Goucher structures on the campus. The most obvious of these is the old spring house located about fifty yards north of the college's psychology annex. (See Plate 3.)

The spring house is a building of coursed rubble construction with what would appear to be some attempt at quoining. Some reconstruction work was done on the building in the 1950's and the roof was replaced as it had rotted and caved in. The interior of the building is stuccoed and white washed. There are gutters about  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide along the inside walls of the spring house. These gutters are constructed of brick covered with cement. Water from the natural spring located about six feet to the south of the southern wall flowed through these channels and out a narrow opening at the foot of the north wall of the building. The spring itself is enclosed in a handsome stone recess in a stone wall whose three sides form a rectangular entranceway to the spring house. Shards of crockery are present in the stream bed north of the structure.

The exact date of the construction of the spring house is not presently known. It appears, however, to be represented on the Hopkins 1877 map of the 9th District and on the undated plat in the Maryland Historical Society. The latter would push its origin back at least to 1867 and probably much earlier.

### Spring House II

Located deep in the woods between the college tennis courts and

paddock is the site of another old spring house. Presently a good portion of the west wall is visible above ground. (See Plate 5.) The other walls can be traced by a few scattered remains on the surface and their course verified by the use of a probe. The site has been a ruin long enough for a tree, with a trunk girth of approximately 17 inches and now blown down, to have grown through the floor of the building.

The spring house was about thirteen by twenty seven feet and the foundations were of coursed rubble construction. The foundation walls were about twenty-two inches thick. The level top of the one exposed wall makes it certain that the superstructure was frame or log. It was probably the latter as irregular chunks of white washed plaster, suitable to sealing a log interior, dot the site.

A spring still flows out of a carefully constructed stone shelter about twenty-three feet southwest of the spring house, and the mechanics of water utilization are still evident there. Spring water flowed into a deepened and widened pool about three by eight feet and the overflow was piped across the spring house floor. (See Plate 4.) Shards of stoneware crockery have been found in the streambed immediately north of the foundation.

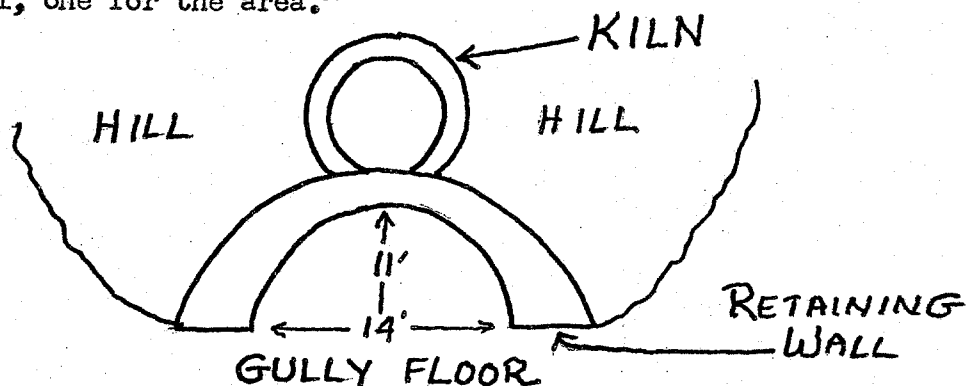
#### Lime Kiln

Located approximately 300 feet to the southwest of spring house # 1 is an old lime kiln. The kiln was built in the wall of a natural hollow at the head of a gully. All that appears of it today is its large, concave retaining wall. The wall resembles a half-cylinder and is constructed of flat, butt-joined, coursed stones. (See Plate 6.) The average thickness of the stones is about five inches. The



wall itself is about two and one half feet thick and is in near perfect condition, with carefully finished edges. The opening of the half cylinder is about fourteen feet wide, eleven feet deep at the center and eleven feet high.

An old employee of Goucher reports that until about 1950, there was a sizeable hole at the top of the hollow over the retaining wall. This hole was lined with stone similar to that of the retaining wall and was nearly as deep as the wall itself. The hole was filled in with soil as a possible hazard to the community; pieces of shaped stone similar to that in the wall are visible on the surface today. This "hole" was certainly the conical kiln itself, a typical, if substantial, one for the area.<sup>1</sup>



Although it is not positively known when the kiln was constructed, there is evidence that a kiln was built for John Robert Holliday and Capt. Charles Ridgely in July 1771 and put into use immediately. There is also evidence, in Ridgely papers of 1794 and in the only known account of the management of Epsom in the very early years of the nineteenth century, that there was a kiln producing lime in those years at Epsom.<sup>2</sup> It is very probable that the kiln built in 1771 is the kiln at Goucher today.

Note: The Account of John Robert Holliday's and Capt. Charles Ridgely's partnership in the kiln (See Appendix 4) tells a great deal

about its operation. Timber for fuel usually came from Northampton with Holliday's teams doing a good share of the hauling. The source of good limestone is uncertain. There are no obvious outcroppings on the campus and yet it must have been available at Epsom to support the kiln later when it was under Holliday's sole management.

Lime was sold by the partners at 1 s. or more usually 1. s. 6 d. a bushel, probably depending on its quality, and delivery cost a straight 6 d. a bushel irregardless of distance, adding one third or one half to the cost of a bushel. Harry Dorsey Gough, for example, bought 1125 bushels of lime for £84/7/6 and paid more than £28 for transport. Among the buyers are a large number of relatives by blood or marriage--Gough, William Goodwin, Charles Ridgely son of John, Darby Lux, Daniel Chamier and Thomas Worthington. Relationship made no difference in the price of lime although Holliday and Ridgely are charged only 1 s. a bushel for their own purchases from the partnership, and it is unlikely that they took inferior lime.

The builder of the kiln, James Spicer, was paid £1/10/- for his work; "dieting" him for six days during the process cost the partners 7 s. 6 d. The lime burner, Isaac Richards, earned £3 a month for working the kiln in 1771. (In 1801, John Robert Holliday Jr. paid two men \$8 a month each to work the kiln.) The partners shared a profit of £223/2/8 on operations between August and December 1771. Capt. Ridgely's share of the profits from the kiln in 1771 and 1772 were £415/11/5.<sup>3</sup> Finally, rum was apparently as necessary to kiln works as was limestone. Fifty two quarts were charged to the works in 1771.

Attempts to document the use of the kiln are continuing and it is hoped that the conical kiln interior may be excavated in the very

near future.

<sup>1</sup>See Amos Long, Jr., "Pennsylvania Limekilns," Pennsylvania Folklore, XV #3, Spring 1966, pp. 24-37.

<sup>2</sup>The kiln account is in Ridgely Papers, MS. 692.1, Box 4, Maryland Historical Society; evidence of the kiln at Epsom are in Grocery Ledger K, Ridgely Papers, MS. 691, Box 25 at the same society and in Chancery Papers # 1120, Baltimore County, Maryland Hall of Records.

<sup>3</sup>Capt. Ridgely's Account Book, Ridgely Papers, MS. 691, Box 16, Maryland Historical Society.

### Barn Foundation

The rectangular foundation of an old barn, thirty feet by forty-three feet, stands on the edge of the woods near the eastern limits of Goucher's paddock. (See Plate 7.) The foundation is built on the side of a slight hill and ranges in height from about two feet at the hillside to about five and one half feet below. Roughly eighteen inches in depth, it is constructed of uncoursed field stone and as the top of the foundation is flat, it certainly supported a frame or log superstructure. One entranceway opened at the northwest corner of the west wall of the barn with another perhaps in the southern wall. Deterioration makes the latter uncertain.

Below the barn some 200 feet to the west in a small spring-fed stream is a concrete watering trough, about three feet by five. A map of the Goucher property, dated 1938 but drawn in 1921, shows a fenced enclosure from barn to stream and includes the trough area. (See Map 3.)

The dimensions of the barn are of particular interest because they correspond exactly to a log barn listed on the Federal Tax Assessment List of 1798. Those dimensions seem to conform to no

standard barn size, and it is most unlikely that two barns of the same unusual dimensions would be constructed on the same estate at different times. The foundation certainly dates before 1798.

The barn foundation is deteriorating. It was used as a dump during the earliest years of Goucher's occupancy of the land and is probably as extensive a storehouse of 1950's cosmetics jars and bottles as Maryland can boast. More recently, trees were bulldozed across it as the paddock was extended, damaging two walls. It is hoped that, with college cooperation, the site may be cleared and the very handsome old foundation preserved.

#### Kitchen Dumps

Several kitchen dump sites, of various dates before Goucher's occupancy of the campus have been uncovered. One, near the Business Services Building and near the place where the farm tenant's dwelling stood after the mansion burned, has been explored by a Goucher history class studying garbage as evidence of material culture. A very large number of artefacts, ranging from bottles from Baltimore breweries to Limoges porcelain, were uncovered. Dating of many of them has suggested dates of 1890-1940 for this dump's use.

Another dump, newly discovered and basically unexplored, is located in the kiln gully. Much nearer the mansion site, this dump is certainly earlier than the former one. Already shards of Chinese blue and white porcelain have been found on its surface which match exactly the patterns and shapes of porcelain from Epsom in the possession of a Chew descendant. (See Plate 8.)

Other areas of the campus have also yielded bits of porcelain and

an abundance of farm machine parts, most of the latter still unidentified and undated, but some apparently early. The old road-bed between farm buildings, now overgrown and barely traceable, is particularly rich in metal objects. The kiln itself, when its primary use was discontinued, would have been an ideal site for the disposal of garbage and it is hoped that excavation may reveal new treasures there.

List of Plates.

1. Epsom Mansion, undated drawing now lost. From photograph in Enoch Pratt Free Library. South Elevation and West Portico.
2. Epsom Mansion after fire of 1894. Original photograph in possession of Samuel Green, Jr., Towson; copy courtesy of Ms. Margaret Green. South Elevation.
3. Spring House # 1. North and East Elevations.
4. Spring House # 2. Stone protector of spring which feeds Spring House. Camera facing south.
5. Spring House # 2. Exposed western wall of Spring House.
6. Lime Kiln. From the gully floor. Camera facing southeast.
7. Barn Foundation. Camera facing southeast.
8. Chinese Blue and White Porcelain from Epsom. In possession of Ms. Frances Green, Towson. Shards from companion pieces in the set have been found in the kitchen dump near the lime kiln. The set is listed in the inventories of both Henry B. and Charles R. Chew.

Photographs by R. K. Lancaster, Spring 1978. All negatives are in Goucher College archives.

## RECORDS SEARCH

EPSOM

## Baltimore County

1. Baltimore County Courthouse, Land Recs., Liber 545, folio 248, dated Sept. 1, 1921. Chew heirs, et al., convey to Goucher College, Charles Chew's and Benjamin Chew's parts of Epsom estate.
2. Baltimore County Courthouse, Wills, Liber 5, folio 44, dated May 27, 1874. Charles R. Chew bequeaths Epsom to wife for lifetime, and to children to be shared after her death. Wills, Liber 7, folio 428, dated February 13, 1884. Charles Chew's heirs inherit Benjamin Chew's portion of Epsom.
3. Maryland Historical Society, MS. 1620, Chew-Ridgely Papers. Indenture, dated June 18, 1867, among Charles R., Benjamin, and Samuel Chew dividing Epsom estate among themselves. Charles R. Chew gets portion of estate with mansion.
4. Baltimore County Courthouse, Land Recs, Liber GHC fol. 29, folio 90 dated April 19, 1860 and folio 125 dated April 19, 1860. Henry B. Chew and John Ridgely of Hampton adjust boundaries between Epsom and Hampton in a series of conveyances.
5. Harriet R. Chew dies intestate on October 20, 1835. Husband Henry B. Chew enjoys Epsom during lifetime; dies December 12, 1866. Epsom inherited jointly by three sons, Charles R., Benjamin, and Samuel Chew.
6. Baltimore City Courthouse, Land Recs., Liber TK 234, Folio 466, dated January 31, 1834. Dr. Josiah Marsh deeds part of Stone's Adventure west of York Road to Harriet R. Chew.
7. Baltimore City Courthouse, Land Recs., TK 225, folio 249, dated March 6, 1833. Charles Oliver deeds part of Stone's Adventure east of Dulaney Valley to Harriet R. Chew.
8. Baltimore City Courthouse, Land Recs., Liber WG 191, folio 556, dated April 2, 1832; and Liber TK 336, folio 49, dated November 27, 1841. Harriet Ridgely Chew receives Epsom (expanded by parts of Stansbury's Disappointment, Cross' Chance, Wheeler's Beginning, and Ridgely's Conclusion) in settlement of Charles Carnan Ridgely of Hampton's estate.
9. Baltimore City Courthouse, Land Recs., WG 126, folio 601, dated November 10, 1813. Charles Ridgely of Hampton buys back from the estate of Thomas Bond the three acres of Ridgely's Conclusion sold to Bond by John Robert Holliday in 1789.
10. Baltimore City Courthouse, Land Recs., Liber WG 92, folio 468, dated February 11, 1807. John Robert Holliday, Jr., sells Epsom to Charles Ridgely of Hampton for \$20,000.

11. Maryland Historical Society, Carroll-Maccubbin Papers, MS. 219, will of John Robert Holliday, dated June 22, 1800. Epsom bequeathed to John Robert Holliday, Jr.
12. Maryland Hall of Records, Chancery Records, Baltimore County, liber 21, folio 784, 1791. Charles Carnan Ridgely of Hampton purchases Cross' Chance and Wheeler's Beginning from the estate of Abraham Risteau.
13. Maryland Hall of Records, Land Recs., Baltimore County, WG DD, folio 522, dated October 4, 1789. John Robert Holliday conveys three acres of his part of Ridgely's Conclusion to Thomas Bond.
14. Maryland Hall of Records, Land Recs., Baltimore County, Liber WG AA, folio 170, May 2, 1787. Thomas Bond conveys three acres of Stone's Adventure contiguous to Northampton to John Robert Holliday.
15. Maryland Hall of Records, Wills, Baltimore County, Liber WB 3, folio 201, dated April 1, 1772. Col. Charles Ridgely bequeaths remainder of Northampton and part of Ridgely's Conclusion to John Robert Holliday; 475 acres.
16. Maryland Hall of Records, Land Recs., Baltimore County, Liber B #H, folio 420, dated November 1, 1760. Deed of gift of most of Northampton from Col. Charles Ridgely to Capt. Charles Ridgely.
17. Maryland House of Records, Patent Certificate 4144, Baltimore County, dated February 2, 1754. Ridgely's Conclusion patented to Col. Charles Ridgely--1350 acres. Eighteen additional acres patented to Col. Ridgely, Patent Certificate 4152, Baltimore County, dated March 25, 1762.
18. Maryland Hall of Records, Land Recs., Baltimore County, Liber TB #D, folio 94, dated April 2, 1745. Col. Charles Ridgely buys Northampton from Darnall heirs.
19. Maryland Hall of Records, Patent Certificate 2165, Baltimore County, dated September 28, 1695. Northampton patented to Col. Henry Darnall.



### Bibliographical Notes

Two brief articles, Isabel B. Moncure, "Future Perfect Tense, a History of Goucher's Future Home," Goucher Alumnae Quarterly, XIX #3, May 1941, pp. 3-7; and Mary Osborn Odell, "Old Towsontown," The Club Courant, Baltimore, April 1941, pp. 14-15, 22-23; and a student term paper from 1931 in the Goucher College Archives comprise the whole of the secondary literature of Epsom. All three were based on interviews and demonstrate chiefly the flaws in human memory. No collection of Holliday papers seems to have survived. Newspaper accounts of the Epsom fire in 1894 note the destruction then of Chew archives, and the investigators have not yet been able to gain access to Chew papers at Cliveden in Philadelphia.

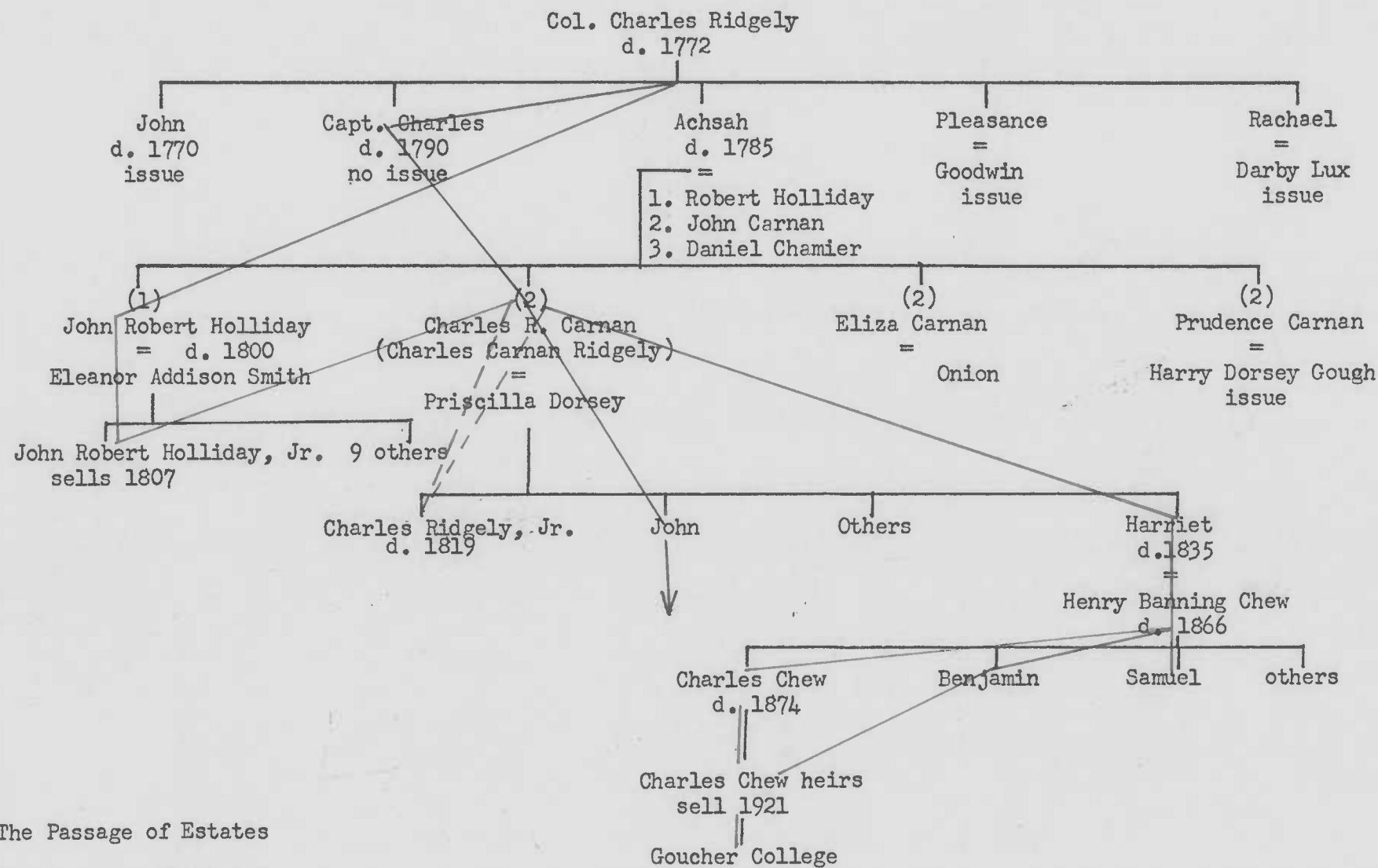
The Chew-Ridgely Papers, MS. 1620, in the Maryland Historical Society contain eight items, of which five are land records concerning Epsom, all registered elsewhere. The major manuscript sources of Epsom history are the voluminous Ridgely Papers, MSS. 691, 692, 692.1, 716, and 1127) in the same Society. As Epsom was an offshoot of Hampton, and as all its owners were close Ridgely relatives who moved in Ridgely circles, Epsom, the Hollidays and the Chews appear many times in the Ridgely papers, but always tangentially to Ridgely interests and therefore unexpectedly for the researcher. There is evidence, for example, that John Robert Holliday was building something in 1787 because he had rafters planed in the Ridgely sawmill; and we know of the construction and working of the Epsom lime kiln in 1771-72 because Holliday rendered an account to his partner in the venture, Captain Charles Ridgely. Although a fairly careful survey of this enormous collection is complete, closer work may still yield more Epsom evidence.

Other collections in the Maryland Historical Society which have Epsom

material are the Worthington Papers, MS. 1406, the Carroll-Maccubbin Papers, MS. 219, Henry Thompson Diaries, Ms. 820, the Oliver Papers, MS. 626.1, St. James Parish Record Book, MS. 720, and the Penniman Land Grants, MS. 1143. The Graphics Division of the Society owns the original undated plat of Epsom, drawn by or for Henry B. Chew, with a tiny sketch of the mansion, and an undated photograph of a drawing of the central portion of the mansion, which was perhaps an architectural projection for possible restoration after the fire. Mr. Samuel Green, Jr., of Towson, owns the only known photograph of the mansion, taken after the fire. Both the Maryland Historical Society and the Enoch Pratt Free Library have photographs of the nineteenth century drawing of Epsom but the drawing itself is lost.

Pertinent land records, wills, and inventories are at the Baltimore City and County Courthouses and the Maryland Hall of Records. Of particular value at the Hall of Records are Chancery Records, Baltimore County, 7565 and 1120, both ca. 1807, which record suits arising out of the sale of Epsom in 1807, and contain accounts of the management of the estate in the first years of the nineteenth century. Useful tax lists include Maryland Tax List 1783, Baltimore County, (Philadelphia, 1970), and Federal Assessment of Baltimore County 1798, Back River Upper Hundred, (microfilm, Hall of Records, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore County Historical Society.) The former is particularly valuable as it lists dimensions of improvements.

Chew-Ridgely descendants, particularly Ms. Frances Green, Ms. Margaret Green, and Mr. Samuel Green, Jr., of Towson have shared family traditions and allowed photographing of furniture and porcelain once part of Epsom.



The Passage of Estates

———— Hampton

———— Epsom

## Appendix 2

The Inventories

(The complete inventory of John Robert Holliday and those pages of the inventories of Henry B. Chew and Charles R. Chew which deal with the mansion are attached.)

Inventories reveal a great deal both about the use of space in the Epsom mansion and the material culture in which the different owners lived. Holliday's inventory is not broken down by rooms, but the inventory listing moves obviously from bedrooms, to parlors, to dining room, to kitchen and pantry, to cellar. As there was a lapse of almost a year between death and inventory and as the Holliday children seem an unusually acquisitive bunch,<sup>1</sup> the inventory is probably less than a complete listing of Holliday's possessions. The house slept thirteen in comfort, for thirteen featherbeds and bedsteads, two of them mahogany are listed. Among other bedroom furniture were eleven chairs, various chests and wash stands. Fifty four chairs are noted downstairs, fourteen mahogany, thirteen walnut, sixteen Windsor, and eleven "old" ones. A Windsor settee, equal in value to a white counterpane or a walnut chest of drawers, presided over the chairs. Dining was at three mahogany tables and there were six other mahogany tables and a mahogany sideboard.

On the walls hung four framed mirrors, two "guilt" and two mahogany, as well as two sets of Hogarth's "paintings," twelve in number. 136 ounces of silver plate were valued at one dollar an ounce. The inventory also lists the farm implements, enumerates the livestock, and names the thirty slaves upon whom white life at Epsom depended.

A good part of the furnishings of Epsom under the Chews came from the sale of Gov. Charles Carnan Ridgely's personal property in 1832; family tradition suggests that other things came from Cliveden in Philadelphia, the Chew homestead. Henry B. Chew bought scores of household items, farm implements and livestock from the Governor's estate. Ranging from a bust

of Hamilton and a sword cane, a sample of Chew's purchases included two gold and green settees and two matching tables, mahogany bureaus and wash stands, at least six beds, mahogany knife boxes, a pier table, a refrigerator, six dung forks, a threshing machine, and four mules, Charles and Beck and Mike and Violet.<sup>2</sup>

Henry B. Chew's inventory, taken in 1867, gives a very full description of the contents of each room at Epsom, although the location of individual bedrooms cannot be ascertained. The bedrooms were large; consider the contents of Chamber # 2: thirteen chairs, two beds, a dressing case, a large wardrobe, two card tables, two washstands, a small stand, two towel racks, a stove, and assorted decorative items. The double parlors are described in the inventory as the "back parlor," and the furnishings of both are lumped together. Both were carpeted but only one chandelier and a single mantle looking glass are listed. There were an escritoire, a writing desk and a "small fancy writing desk," a mahogany sofa, two lounges, fifteen mahogany and two covered chairs, a bookcase, two pier tables, a marble-top center table, four small tables, two footstools, an ottoman, and assorted decorations. Among the last were twelve pictures, the most valuable of which depicted the crucifixion. The room designated as "dining room" had by this time no facilities for dining and was obviously a family parlor, with "old" furniture but with more purely decorative items than the double parlors. Among these were nine "scripture prints." Sideboard and two dining tables were in the breakfast room, although, strangely, no chairs are listed for that room.

Charles R. Chew's inventory in 1875 demonstrates most of all that there were few changes in Epsom's furnishings between his father's death and his own. The bedroom noted above had lost a bed but almost everything else was intact, even to two candlesticks, their snuffers and tray. The same was true of the other rooms as well. The old parlor furniture had been retired

from the dining room and a dining table and sideboard were back. Seating accommodations for dining, however still remain a mystery in the 1875 inventory.

<sup>1</sup>Some mystery surrounds the death of John Robert Holliday. The Federal Gazette had printed an unusually long obituary for his wife, Eleanor Addison Smith Holliday, just two years earlier on July 7, 1798, but no obituary at all has been found for Holliday. Immediately after his death, his executors, his "dear brother Charles Carnan Ridgely and his dear Friend James Carroll," refused to serve. Within a short time the husbands of married Holliday daughters were suing John Robert Holliday, Jr. for violation of the terms of the will and after Charles Carnan Ridgely bought Epsom, he was named a co-defendent in the suit. In a deposition in the case, Holliday, Jr., stated that work as he might he could never make a profit from Epsom because his sisters were so greedy and demanding. He moved to Louisiana, and by the 1830's young John Robert Holliday, III, is visiting his Ridgely cousins at Hampton and being dosed with gin when ill. See Chancery Papers, Baltimore County, # 7565 and # 1120, ca. 1807, Maryland Hall of Records, and Ridgely Papers, MS. 691, Maryland Historical Society.

<sup>2</sup>Probate Records, Accounts of Sales, Baltimore City, Liber DMP 14, folio 1 ff, 1832, Maryland Hall of Records.

Inventory of John Robert Holliday, June 15, 1801. Liber WK 1063, folio 505,  
Maryland Hall of Records.

10 pairs fine sheets	25.00
6 pairs coarse sheets	10.00
9 pairs linen cheets	9.00
5 white counterpains	15.00
14 quilts	20.00
10 coverlets	36.00
20 damask tablecloths	80.00
12 common tablecloths	12.00
5 towels linen	2.00
8 damask towels	8.00
20 diaper towels	5.00
24 pairs blankets	35.00
9 pairs pillow cases	2.00
5 setts curtains	80.00
11 chairs	2.00
13 feather beds at 15 each	195.00
13 bolsters and 18 pillows	35.00
10 mattresses	60.00
13 bedsteads 2 of which mahogany	32.50
1 large mahogany chest of drawers	15.00
2 small mahogany chests w. glass	10.00
1 walnut chest w. glass	3.00
1 wash stand and furniture	1.00
1 oilcloth	2.50
5 old chests	2.50
1 cloth stand	.50
old carpets	35.00
14 mahogany chairs	60.00
13 walnut chairs	15.00
16 windsor chairs	4.00
11 old chairs	3.00
1 windsor settee	3.00
1 set of dining mahogany tables 3 in number	20.00
1 square dining mahogany table	2.00
6 small tables 5 mahogany	21.00
2 guilt framed mirrors	20.00
2 mahogany framed mirrors	10.00
1 pair brass-topped and irons, shovel, long fender	10.00
5 pairs and irons	2.50
1 pair brass topped shovel and tongs	.50
1 case and stand	5.00
1 chest	2.00
1 old table	.50
1 mahogany side board	18.00
2 knife cases and knives	6.00
2 setts Hogarths paintings, 12 in number	20.00
1 clock	20.00
1 gold watch	15.00
1 silver watch	15.00
4 window blinds	.50

	pewter plates and dishes	6.00
36	jelly glasses	1.00
24	punch glasses	2.00
4	glass bowls	5.00
12	decanter	6.00
3	brimids (?)	5.00
2	glass jugs	1.00
6	China mugs	3.00
1	large punch pot	.50
3	pitchers	1.00
1	set blue China	24.00
24	red and white plates	5.00
18	waiters	5.00
6	candlesticks	2.00
	the whole kitchen furniture	20.00
	cellar furniture, consisting of Hhds, bbls, jars bottles, jugs, etc.	60.00
4	wheels and 1 reel	3.00
1	loom	10.00
	silver plate, being 136 oz.	136.00
	blasksmiths tools	8.00
10	old ploughs and 2 old harrows	22.50
	sundry parts of old wagons	11.00
1	old 2 horse waggon	30.00
1	large harrow	2.00
8	axes, 2 mauls, 7 wedges and 2 pieces maul rings	7.50
10	old hoes	2.75
5	mattocks, 6 shovels, 12 pitch forks	6.75
20	sickles and 3 old scithes	2.50
2	grand stones	2.00
60	barrels corn	120.00
15	bushels flaxseed	7.00
20	bushels oats	5.00
2	old fans 1 old cutting box	6.00
1	cart	5.00
7	setts gears and cart saddle	9.50
4	3 yr old colts	120.00
1	young mare	28.00
19	cows	247.00
4	oxen cart and gears complete	95.00
7	steers	98.00
12	young cattle	60.00
7	calfs	21.00
45	sheep and 16 lambs	82.00
5	sows and pigs	34.00
55	head of hogs	151.00
2	cows, 2 heifers, and 4 yearlings	64.00
1	bull	20.00
5	work horses and 5 mules	216.00
1	waggon 5 horses and gears	240.00
1	carriage and harness	50.00
1	old horse cart and gears	24.00
1	briar hook and carpenters tools	2.00
1	mare with foul	32.00



1	old brown mare and colt	34.00
1	young horse	24.00
10	shoats	23.00
1	dray	20.00
	lumber	6.00

There follows a list of thirty slaves, listed by name,  
age, and value. total 2521.00

whole amount            \$5785.50

15 June 1801

ABSTRACT FROMFEDERAL ASSESSMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY 1798BACK RIVER UPPER HUNDRED

Number of particular lists: 1061, 1178.

Holliday, Jno. R.      Northampton      470 acres

- 1 Stone House, 2 stories, 24' x 53'
- 1 Stone Kitchen, 2 stories, 24' x 40'
- 1 Stone Kitchen, 16' x 16'
- 1 Log House, 16' x 16'
- 2 Old Log and Frame Houses, 16' x 20' each
- 1 Frame Meat House, 16' x 16'
- 2 Log Hen Houses, 12' x 12'
- 2 Log Stables, 16' x 24' each
- Another Stable, 16' x 16'
- 1 Frame Barn, 30' x 43'
- 1 Old Frame Barn, 16' x 20'
- 1 Log Stile House, 16' x 24'

Map 1EPSOM

The Land Holdings of John Robert Holliday and Harriet Ridgely Chew which Comprised Epsom.

Note:

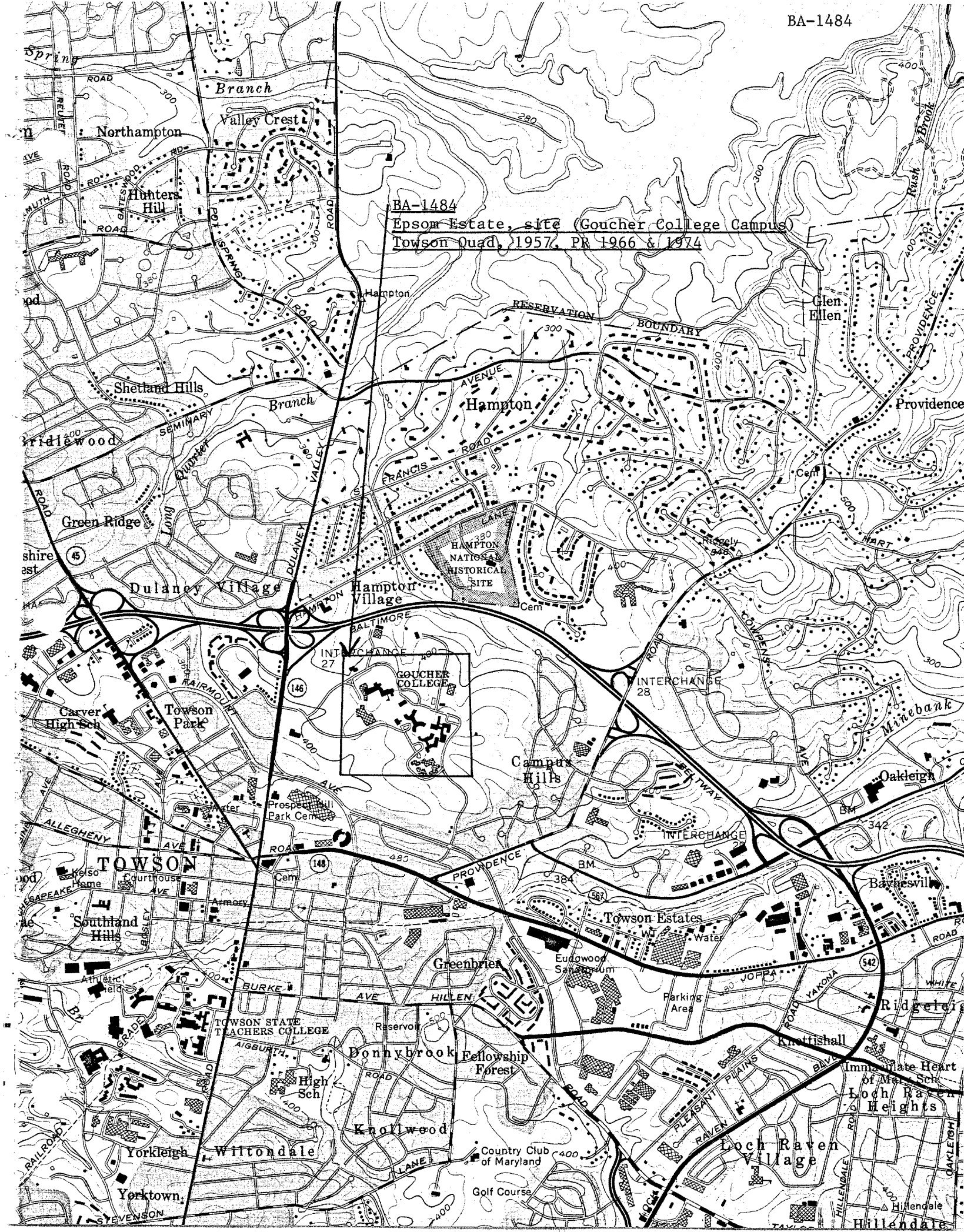
Apparently a good bit of mystery surrounded the southern and eastern boundaries of Stone's adventure as it bordered on Ridgely's Conclusion. In the pertinent land records mentioning these boundaries, the variations are almost infinite. The southeastern course of Stone's adventure was either S  $41^{\circ} 45'$  E or S  $39^{\circ} 45'$  E and 103 or 133 perches; the northeastern course was either N  $11^{\circ} 15'$  E or N  $9^{\circ} 15'$  E and 138 or 155 perches. Between 1754 and 1841, no one was sure which earlier document had the true dimensions. The land that John Robert Holliday bought from Thomas Bond in 1787 may already have been his, and the land he sold to Bond in return in 1789 was perhaps already Bond's. Harriet Ridgely Chew solved the problem by buying all of Stone's Adventure east of Dulaney Valley Road in 1833.













Standing on what are now Goucher College grounds, the Epsom mansion was apparently a showplace. Built in the early 1800s, the house featured two glass-fronted conservatories that flanked a yellow front porch. Inside the front door was a dining room. Large windows like French doors opened out to admit a flood of light. That flood was filtered by a two-story portico on the left with Doric columns, probably added later. A few steps below the first floor were a breakfast room, pantry, and kitchen with fireplace and two brick ovens. Upstairs were the Chews' apartments, a nursery, and five other bedrooms.

*Photograph courtesy of Towson Library, BCPL*

Built in 1840, this house on Virginia Avenue was once part of the Epsom estate. The *Baltimore County American* of March 1, 1861, contained this advertisement for the house: "In Chewville adjoining Towson Town—Three Story Mansion on Virginia Avenue—hot, cold shower baths, water closets, cooking ranges, etc. and is admirably adapted for a female seminary or boarding house." The Chew and Grason families occupied the dwelling for many years. Originally it had a cupola.

*Photograph by Carl Behm III*

Hahn, H. George, and Carl Behm III

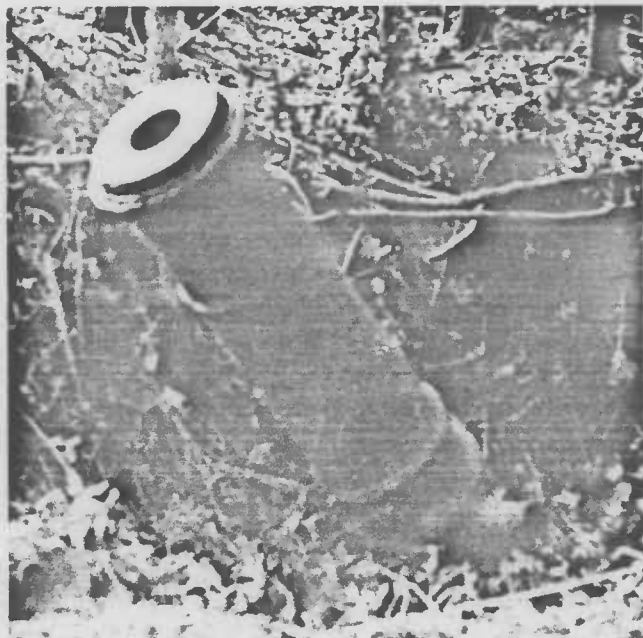
1977 A Pictorial History of a Maryland Town: Towson. Norfolk: Donning Co.





## Epsom

When Governor Charles Carnan Ridgely gave his daughter Harriet in marriage, he gave her several hundred acres of the Ridgely property as dowry. Henry Banning Chew was the recipient of hand and land. After more land purchases, Henry and Harriet came to control some seven hundred acres. They named their estate Epsom, after Epsom Downs, the English racing town in Surrey, near which the Chew family held property.



This cannon once graced the lawn of Epsom. Of a type cast during the Revolutionary War, it had been mounted at the armory a short distance north of Joppa Road. After the armory was abandoned in the 1830s, Henry Chew brought the cannon to his home as an ornament.

Following the fire that destroyed Epsom, the cannon gradually settled into the ground. It was unearthed during excavation for the Julia Rodgers Library on the Goucher College campus in 1951.

*Photograph courtesy of Goucher College*

The gutted remains of Epsom House after the fire in 1886.

*Photograph courtesy of Andrew Clemens*





BA-1484

ouch

c

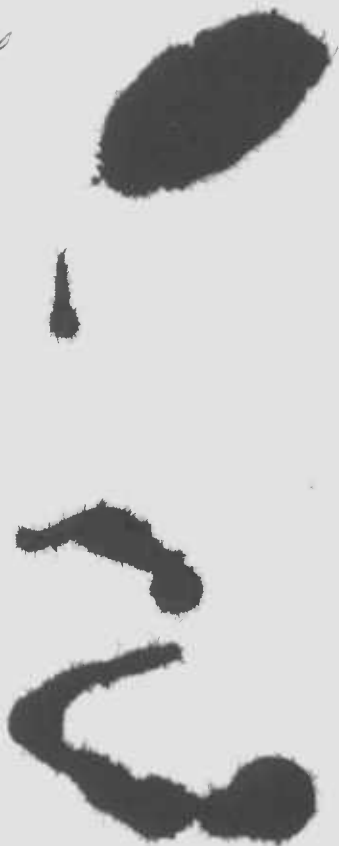
EPSON  
1000 ft. N. 1.  
1890



BA-1484



BA-1484







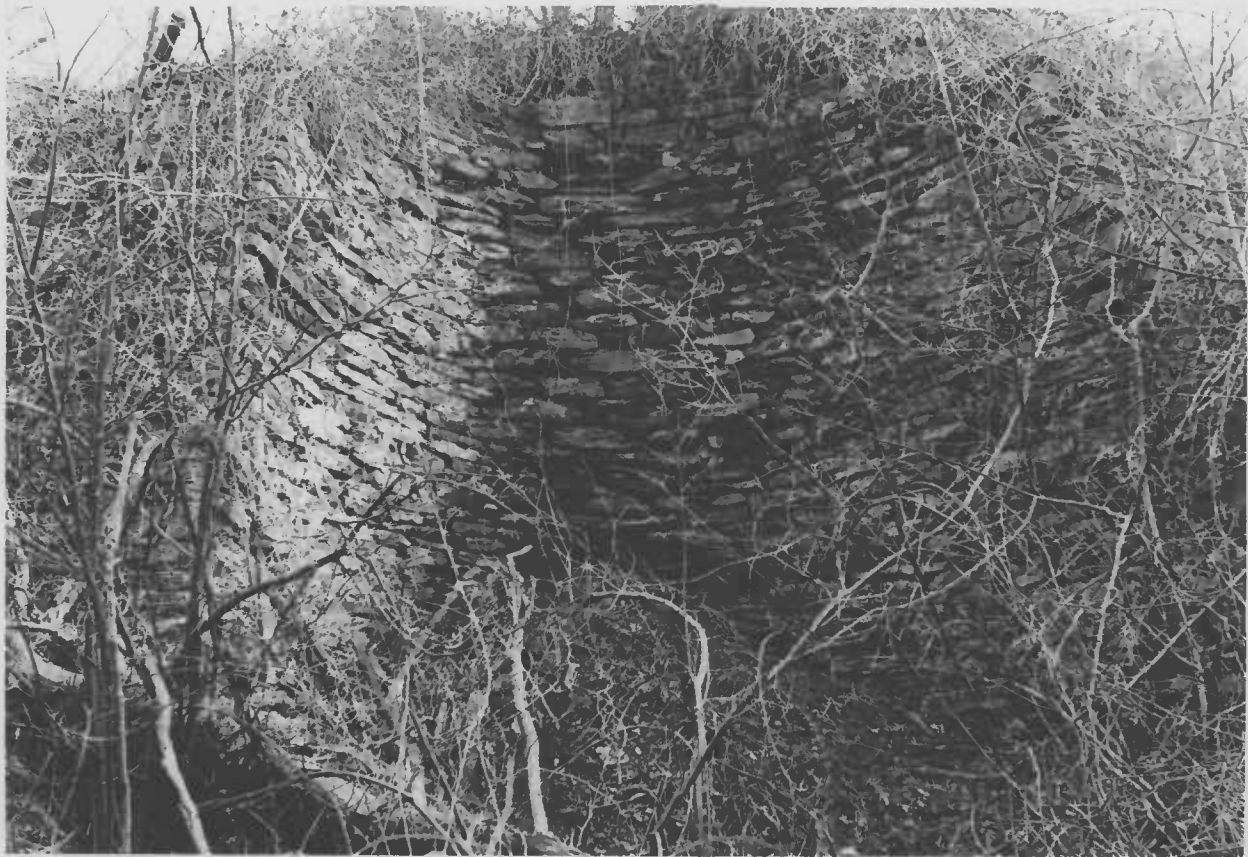
BA 1484



BA-1484



BA-1484



BA-1484







BA-1484